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31 October 1966

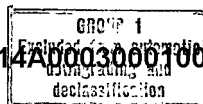
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with the DCI on the Life Sciences

1. On 28 October the Director asked me to brief him on the role of life sciences in the future and particularly its implications to intelligence. The briefing took place from 1100-1200 in his office. Messrs. Duckett and Chapman were also in attendance.
2. Initially I established my bona fides with respect to past experience in the Agency and drew an analogy between intelligence and medicine as a profession. I reminded him that in his initial remarks on becoming DCI he emphasized the need for professionalism in intelligence. I told him the most important role the life sciences could play would be to assist in this process, that the Agency must autopsy its cases and must develop a methodology. I pointed out this could be done and is being done in a small way through our study of the security system via the polygraph. I remarked about other areas such as training and our brief encounter with the CA Staff on leadership. I reviewed my meeting with Des Fitzgerald and our current relationships with TSD in this area.
3. I discussed briefly the expanding role of the life sciences, particularly behavioral and social, in the widening spectrum of conflict and expressed my alarm at the almost complete lack of capability in the analysis area in OSI and related offices to carry out even a minimal effort in these areas. I urged him to carry on the proposed plan to add a behavioral scientist to the ONE Board as a full member rather than a consultant. He stated he thought this had already been done and said that he would make sure I had an opportunity to interview candidates. I reviewed briefly some of the current activities in ORD emphasizing that we

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2

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are in the intelligence business, not life sciences, but that we would make use of these techniques including behavior, human factors, animal studies, use of drugs, the man-machine interface, and briefly the BW/CW effort. We also discussed future national problems such as over population and food production. I informed him that solutions to these problems already existed which seemed to surprise him. He said in the high level meetings he attends these topics are continually discussed and no one seems to think there are solutions. I described the use of "the pill" as the absolute solution to the problem if any nation chooses to use this and that pilot plant production of protein from vegetation and petroleum residue was already in existence and could in a relatively short period of time solve the problem of food. However, I warned him that there would still be problems of distribution, custom, etc. He asked me whether Orville Freeman knew about this and whether we should tell him. I told him I did not consider it to be part of the intelligence job and that the research leading to this probably came out of the Department of Agriculture. If Freeman does not know about this, he might ask his R&D people. Mr. Duckett injected the point that the Chinese have already built a plant for the production of protein from petroleum residue.

4. The Director reaffirmed a statement made at an earlier meeting that he expected us to follow up on all cases of ESP-like activity and that he was "telling people" we do this. I told him we were following most of the ones we heard about, and he again injected the word "all." He asked me whether I had read the book which Admiral Taylor referred to on territoriality. I said I had not and asked him if he had read Lorenz' book. He is in the process of reading Lorenz' book "On Aggression" which he says makes more sense as a theory of political behavior than anything the political scientists have come up with. He had not read "King Solomon's Ring." I told him I would send it to him since it is the basis on which Lorenz wrote "On Aggression."

5. He asked what efforts we had made to study operations. I told him we were discussing this matter with the Historical Staff to see if we could obtain past data on operations. He said this

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3

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would not provide adequate information and suggested we go directly to Des Fitzgerald and request suitable current, detailed data on successful and unsuccessful operations.

6. Mr. Duckett asked how much we were spending in the life sciences. I told him [redacted] He then asked if this were adequate and I said no. Mr. Helms said to inform him of my needs in the way of money and manpower. I told him I did not consider this meeting the appropriate time to ask for anything other than what he had already given me which was complete support (which he reaffirmed) in our taking aggressive steps along the lines we have initiated. He said he hoped I would come and see him when I needed something. I told him I would rather work through the system so that I could get the support of the individuals directly involved rather than having it rammed down their throats. He said he agreed in principle but if I met roadblocks, I was to come to him.

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7. A number of other topics were touched upon briefly including cost effectiveness. I felt it was necessary to tell him of the Vitro contract which a former Director signed at a cost which exceeded the total dollars spent on life sciences research and development in the past four years. In killing that project out of channels, I felt we had already paid our way. He was very interested in this and may have been aware of that project.

8. In summary, I feel the Director has an intuitive appreciation of the potential of the life sciences in intelligence and has explicitly given us his personal backing and support. On the basis of an earlier briefing with Admiral Taylor, I would surmise that the Admiral shares Mr. Helms' views on this. It is extremely important at this point that Col. White and John Clarke be informed and brought into the loop in order to avoid putting them in a difficult position. It is also important that we proceed with extreme caution to avoid over-extending our current resources or oversell the value of the life sciences.

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Deputy Director  
of  
Research and Development

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